

ZZ

RNR 438

CYPRUS

NICOSIA, COT. 3, REUTER -- THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT NEGOTIATORS -- GLAFROS CLERIDES AND RAUF DENKTASH -- WILL RESUME TALKS HERE TOMORROW MORNING TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN THE ISLAND FOLLOWING THE TURKISH INVASION LAST JULY.

MR CLERIDES LAST WEEK ASKED FOR A BREAK IN THE TALKS WHILE HIS POSITION AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY WAS BEING CLARIFIED.

HE ASSUMED THE PRESIDENCY OF CYPRUS AFTER ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS WAS OVERTHROWN IN THE JULY 15 COUP THAT PROVOKED THE TURKISH INTERVENTION.

MR CLERIDES SAID A WEEK AGO THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING RESIGNING, BUT DECIDED TO CARRY ON AFTER RECEIVING MESSAGES OF SUPPORT FROM ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, GREEK PREMIER CONSTANTINE KARAMANLIS, AND CYPRIOT POLITICIANS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

MORE 1818

-----

ZZ

RNR 440

CYPRUS 2 NICOSIA

THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE IS PRESSING FOR THE TRANSFER OF ABOUT 50,000 MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMUNITY FROM GREEK-CONTROLLED AREAS TO THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE ISLAND, NOW CONTROLLED BY THE TURKISH ARMY.

BUT THEY ARE NOT WILLING TO PERMIT THE RETURN OF AT LEAST 200,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS, WHO FLED THEIR VILLAGES IN THE PATH OF THE TURKISH INVADING FORCES.

MANY GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES ARE IN THE TWO BRITISH MILITARY BASES OF DREKELIA AND EPISKOP1 ON THE SOUTHERN COASTLINE, AND THERE ARE ALSO ABOUT 8,000 TURKISH CYPRIOT REFUGEES AT EPISKOP1.

THE TWO NEGOTIATORS WILL HAVE TO SETTLE THE FATE OF THE REFUGEES BEFORE THEY CAN GO ON TO DEAL WITH THE SHAPE OF THE NEW CYPRUS STATE. THE TURKISH SIDE IS NEGOTIATING FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH IN DEMANDING A "BI-REGIONAL FEDERATION" WITH A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SHARED BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES.

REUTER 1820

-----